

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-08 L-03 /034 W
-----062108 281133Z /20

R 281046Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9368
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMCONSUL ZURICH

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USDOC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP FR, ML
SUBJECT: MALIAN OFFICIALS SEEK US ASSISTANCE IN
OBTAINING CEMENT ORDERED AND PAID FOR VIA US COMPANIES
BUT NOT RECEIVED.

SUMMARY: THREE INITIAL SHIPMENTS OF CEMENT TO MALI
ORDERED VIA US FIRMS VALUED AT \$1.8 MILLION HAVE BEEN
PAID FOR BY THE MALIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK BUT NOT
RECEIVED ACCORDING TO MALIAN OFFICIALS CALLING AT
EMBASSY PARIS. THE TOTAL CONTRACT IS VALUED AT JUST
OVER \$4 MILLION. PAYMENT WAS MADE THROUGH THE PARIS
BANQUE COMMERCIALE POUR L'EUROPE AGAINST SHIPPING
DOCUMENTS RECEIVED. THE MALIAN EMBASSY HAS REQUESTED
THAT INQUIRIES BE MADE BY US AUTHORITIES WITH THE
US FIRMS INVOLVED.

1) FIRST COUNSELOR FLACORO SAMAKE OF THE EMBASSY OF
MALI IN PARIS CALLED AT EMBASSY PARIS COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS
SECTION TODAY IN COMPANY OF MANAGING DIRECTOR DIARRA
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OF THE MALIAN STATE ENTERPRISE SOMIEX (SOCIETE MALIENNE
D'IMPORTATION ET D'EXPORTATION). PURPOSE OF CALL WAS TO
REQUEST USG ASSISTANCE IN COUNTERING WHAT MAY BE AN
OPERATION TO COLLECT FROM THE BANQUE DE DEVELOPPEMENT
DU MALI SEVERAL MILLION DOLLARS FOR CEMENT PAID FOR
BUT NOT DELIVERED.

2) ACCORDING TO MESSRS. SAMAKE AND DIARRA THE FRENCH BANQUE COMMERCIALE POUR L'EUROPE DU NORD ACTING AS CORRESPONDENT FOR THE MALIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK HAS PAID TO A US COMPANY LIME INTERNATIONAL OF NEW YORK THREE INSTALLMENTS OUT OF SEVEN FOR SHIPMENTS OF CEMENT SCHEDULED TO GO FROM SPAIN VIA ABIDJAN TO SIKASSO IN MALI. TOTAL VALUE OF 7 SHIPMENTS IS FRENCH FRANCS TWENTY ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED AND TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FORTY (21 525 840) I.E. OVER FOUR MILLION DOLLARS.

3. THE BANQUE COMMERCIALE HAS PAID THE FIRST THREE INSTALLMENTS TALLING FF NINE MILLION (ABOUT \$1.8 MILLION) AGAINST DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY TWO SPANISH SHIPPING COMPANIES SURDIAZ OF AYALA 6 IN MADRID AND TIMBER ESPAGNOLA, CABRALES 10 IN GIJON. ACCORDING TO THE MALIAN OFFICIALS NONE OF THE CEMENT HAS ARRIVED IN ABIDJAN OR MALI ALTHOUGH THE LETTERS OF CREDIT WERE DEBITED IN JULY AND AUGUST 1977 AGAINST SHIPMENT DOCUMENTS.

4. THE ORIGINAL CONTRACT WAS NEGOTIATED IN MALI BY AN AMERICAN MR. WALTER THE PRESIDENT OF NUBIAN INTERNATIONAL 122 EAST 42ND ST. 10017 NEW YORK ASSISTED BY A UNCLASSIFIED

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MALIAN NAMED DIAKITE. THE DELIVERY CONTRACT WAS TRANSFERRED TO LIME INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION OF 509 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK NY.

5. IT IS LIME INTERNATIONAL WHICH HAS RECEIVED PAYMENT FOR THE CEMENT. ACCORDING TO A LETTER OF 20 SEPTEMBER 1977 FROM THE BANQUE COMMERCIALE THE SHIPMENTS REPORTEDLY ON BOARD THE THREE STEAMERS CHIQUI, MIRAFLORES AND JUPITER AS OF 30 JULY 1977 WERE COVERED BY PAYMENTS OF \$1,018,040 TO A BANK IN LIECHTENSTEIN AG, VADUZ AS DIRECTED BY LIME'S TELEX OF 19 AUGUST 1977. FOR THE SHIPMENT GOING BY THE STEAMER ATLANTIC SUN THE SUM OF \$379,485 WAS PAID TO THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF THE NEAR EAST LTD. LONDON IN FAVOR OF MR. BAGLANTZIS (AS ATTORNEY FOR OLYMPIC INTERNATIONAL SERVICES INC.) AS DIRECTED BY LIME'S INTERNATIONAL'S TELEX OF 24 AUGUST 1977.

6. MR. DIARRA THE DIRECTOR OF THE MALIAN STATE ENTERPRISE IMPORTING THE CEMENT IS NOW PROCEEDING TO SPAIN TO CONTACT THE AFORECAITED SPANISH SHIPPING COMPANIES TO FIND OUT THE BASIS ON WHICH SHIPPING

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
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DOCUMENTS WERE ISSUED.

7. MR. SAMAKE SAID THAT AN APPROACH HAD BEEN ALREADY
MADE TO THE US EMBASSY IN MALI BUT HE REQUESTED THAT
EMBASSY PARIS ALSO TAKE ACTION IN THIS MATTER.

8. THE EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
THROUGH THE NEW YORK FIELD OFFICE MAKE INQUIRIES
AT THE US COMPANIES OF NUBIAN INTERNATIONAL AND LIME
INTERNATIONAL TO FIND OUT WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO THE
CEMENT ORDERED AND OF WHICH THREE INSTALMENTS OUT OF
SEVEN HAVE BEEN PAID FOR BY THE MALIAN DEVELOPMENT
BANK. THE MALIAN OFFICIALS WOULD ALSO LIKE TO HAVE
INFORMATION ON THE BUSINESS REPUTATION OF THE US
COMPANIES CONCERNED. IN THIS CONNECTION THE MALIAN
OFFICIALS STATED THEY WERE ALREADY FAMILIAR WITH THE
SERVICES OF DUN AND BRADSTREET.

9. IN VIEW OF THE EXTEND OF INVOLVEMENT OF THE MALIAN
GOVERNMENT IN THIS AFFAIR IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF
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SPECIAL PRIORITY WERE GIVEN TO INQUIRIES
RELATING TO THE US FIRMS CONCERNED.

10. COPIES OF DOCUMENTS PROVIDED BY THE MALIAN VISITORS
WILL BE AIRMAILED TO THE STATE DESK OFFICER FOR MALI
FOR FURTHER DISTRIBUTION.

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Message Attributes

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vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/62b13b3b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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